

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from Brandenburg

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25 April to 5 May 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 25X1 29 May 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 5 May 1952, the Flak Kaserne on Magdeburger Strasse, Brandenburg (N 53/Z 23), 25X1 was vacant except for a rear detail of about 50 troops.

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2. Except for a section quartering an air force unit, the Pionier Kaserne on Einstein Strasse was vacant on 5 May. No motor vehicle traffic was seen. *

3. On 5 May, the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne on Magdeburger Strasse was occupied by an artillery unit equipped with two-load guns. Substantially less training activity occurred than in the previous weeks. About 100 troops were seen receiving training with field telephones and range finders. Two two-load guns were in a gun shed. A radio station with two masts, about 15 meters high, and a radio truck standing in the middle between the two masts was seen in the rear section of the barracks installation. Firing practice with machine guns was performed at the firing ranges in the barracks area. No motor vehicles were seen. **

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4. On 1 May, the unit stationed in the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne organized into 10 march columns, each of 44 troops, and with a total of about 20 officers marched to the Soviet cemetery at Steintor for a ceremony. Source believed that during the absence of the unit the barracks installation was occupied only by a guard and kitchen detail about 20 to 25 men. About eight canvas-covered two-load guns were seen under a lean-to roof in the barracks yard. There was notably little training activity. The soldiers either played soccer all day long or loafed. Only a very small number of motor vehicles entering or leaving the installation including only few supply vehicles were seen.

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5. On 25 April, the Flak Kaserne on Magdeburger Strasse was vacant and no windows lighted at dusk. A woman who knew a physician stationed in the barracks installation stated that during the night of 24 April, the troops left the installation almost unnoticed and very hastily. The vehicles departed without lights. She expressed the belief that the troops had been suddenly alerted as her friend departed without visiting her as he had promised. She said that she received word that the unit

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went to Altengrabow (N 53/8 00) and would be back in September. The training guns which had been emplaced in the barracks yard were no longer seen after 25 April. After 25 April, the barracks installation was occupied by 20 to 30 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. *

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* [] Comment. The present information confirms that the units previously stationed in the Flak Kaserne and Pionier Kaserne are no longer in their quarters. Another source reported that the 63d Cds Tank Regt of the 10th Gds Tank Div departed from the Pionier Kaserne for Lohding Heath during the period from 14 to 17 April 1952 and that the units of the 3d Gds AT Arty Brig (US) left the Flak Kaserne for Altengrabow on 24 and 25 April. []

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* [] Comment. On 11 April 1952, another source reported that the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne was only lightly occupied. [] The information supplied by the two sources of the present report tends to indicate, however, that the barracks installations were again partially occupied by units of the 12th Bv How Arty Brig (US) as of 1 May 1952. This corresponds with observations made in 1951, when the units of the brigade were rotated to the Altengrabow firing range for short-term practices.

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